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COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
PENNSYLVANIA GAME COMMISSION

Harrisburg

September 27, 1968

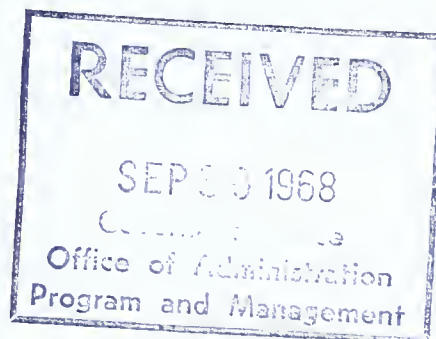
Subject: Biennial Report

To: Honorable A. F. Sampson
Secretary of Administration
and Budget Secretary

From: Glenn L. Bowers
Executive Director
Pennsylvania Game Commission

Attached is a report concerning the Game Commission's activities for the period July 1, 1966 to June 30, 1968, as requested by Administrative Directive No. 41.

Enc.



PENNSYLVANIA GAME COMMISSION

Biennium July 1, 1966 to June 30, 1968

Significant achievements can be reported in all Game Commission programs for the biennium ending June 30, 1968. These are shown in the accompanying details of each program. Following are the major accomplishments with references made to the respective Division.

1. Sale of Hunting Licenses - Sales in all categories of hunting licenses, except regulated shooting ground, have shown a marked increase. This is especially significant when considering the loss of land open to hunting and the competition offered by other forms of outdoor recreational activities. (See Division of Administration).
2. Land Acquisition and Leasing - In our effort to provide more public hunting areas the Commission increased leased areas. Likewise, acquisition from Game Fund and Project 70 monies continued within maximum budget limitations, resulting in 5,443,780 acres in all management projects at the close of the biennium. (See Division of Land Management).
3. Increase in Revenue - The increased revenue for the biennium is basically the result of increased license sales reflecting the excellent recreational opportunities provided by hunting to both resident and non-resident hunters. (See Comptroller's Office).
4. Game Harvest - The number of species and large number harvested of most species points up the diversified hunting afforded in Pennsylvania. The deer harvest shows a marked increase over the previous biennium and ranks as a leader among all States. (See Division of Administration).
5. Amendments to the Game Law - Sixteen amendments were added to the Game Law in this period, most of which were requested by the Commission to meet the demands for new game management methods and necessary controls. (See Division of Law Enforcement).
6. Conservation Information and Education - Practically all facets of this public relations function showed a definite increase in operations to meet demands. More public awareness concerning wise use of all natural resources increased participation in all types of meetings, requests for exhibits, literature distributed, etc. The Triple Trophy contest was started in this biennium and has been of value in creating and continuing interest in hunting. (See Division of Information and Education).

COMPTROLLER'S OFFICE

The increased revenue of almost 21% for the Biennium is the result of programs developed by the Pennsylvania Game Commission in providing an abundant supply of wild game for the resident and nonresident hunters.

Cash on hand at the end of the Biennium shows some 41% increase which enables the Commission to proceed with future plans and programs.

Capital assets are shown at cost. The market value of these assets is estimated at several times their cost.

	<u>1966-68</u>	<u>1964-66</u>	<u>Amount of Increase or (Decrease)</u>	<u>% of Change</u>
Cash on Hand -				
Beginning of Period	\$ 5,302,371.90	\$ 3,559,335.52	\$1,743,036.38	48.9
Receipts During Period	<u>18,372,700.60</u>	<u>15,198,911.43</u>	<u>3,173,789.17</u>	<u>20.9</u>
Total Cash Available	23,675,072.50	18,758,246.95	4,916,825.55	26.2
Expenditures During Period	<u>16,201,972.05</u>	<u>13,455,875.05</u>	<u>2,745,565.00</u>	<u>20.4</u>
Cash on Hand -				
End of Period	<u>\$ 7,473,100.45</u>	<u>\$ 5,302,371.90</u>	<u>\$2,171,260.55</u>	<u>40.9</u>
Detailed Expenditures:				
Land Management	\$ 6,993,988.25	\$ 5,772,275.03	\$1,221,713.22	21.2
Law Enforcement	3,189,624.12	2,976,721.37	212,902.75	7.2
Propagation	1,770,954.41	1,826,102.36	(55,147.95)	(3.1)
Administration	841,654.62	682,390.13	159,264.49	23.3
Other (a)	<u>3,405,218.65</u>	<u>2,198,386.16</u>	<u>1,206,832.49</u>	<u>54.8</u>
	<u>\$16,201,440.05</u>	<u>\$13,455,875.05</u>	<u>\$2,745,565.00</u>	<u>20.4</u>

(a) Research, Training School, Employee Benefits, Information and Education, Appropriations to other State Departments, Miscellaneous.

	<u>6-30-68</u>	<u>6-30-66</u>	<u>Increase or (Decrease)</u>	<u>% of Change</u>
Capital Assets	\$10,885,864.44	\$ 9,963,207.25	\$ 922,657.19	9.3



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DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATION

Personnel Section

	<u>Present Biennium</u>
Number of Salaried Employees.....	351
	(Previous Biennium 332)
Number of Hourly Employees.....	405
	(Previous Biennium 364)
Total of Present Biennium.....	756
Total of Previous Biennium.....	696
Salaried Appointments.....	71
Reinstatements.....	1
Resignations.....	35
Suspensions.....	4
Dismissals.....	0
Retirements.....	17
Deaths.....	2
Transfers to Other Departments.....	6
Promotions.....	33
*Reclassifications.....	7
New Positions Created.....	17
Positions Abolished.....	2

The 13th Class of twenty-five (25) Game Conservation Officer Trainees was enrolled at the Ross Leffler School of Conservation on March 25, 1968. Successful graduates will be promoted to Game Conservation Officers I in February 1969.

As of June 30, 1968 there are 279 employes serving in permanent Civil Service status.

*Includes two (2) resulting from Executive Board action.

Statistical Section

	<u>License Sales</u>	
	<u>1966</u>	<u>1967</u>
Resident Hunting Licenses	931,239	988,463
Non-Resident Hunting Licenses	62,654	72,535
Non-Resident Regulated Shooting Grounds Licenses	2,437	2,297
Archery Licenses	92,792	110,051
Antlerless Deer Licenses	376,598	444,913

License sales for the period show a significant increase in all major categories. The increase in non-resident sales is evidence that the quality of hunting in Pennsylvania is continuing to gain favor in other states as well as with Commonwealth hunters.

Total Game Harvest - Although totals in numbers of game species harvested is not the only criterion in evaluating a wildlife management program, it is still considered the most reliable method for comparative purposes. The outstanding accomplishment is the record number of antlered deer killed in 1967 without any apparent harmful effect on the present deer herd.

<u>Species</u>	<u>GAME KILL</u>	
	<u>1967</u>	<u>1966</u>
Deer, Legal Antlered	78,268	58,722
Deer, Legal Antlerless	66,147	60,031
Total Deer	144,415 (1)	118,753 (2)
Bears	568	605
Rabbits	2,870,000*	3,390,000*
Hares (Snowshoes)	6,000*	1,288**
Squirrels	2,680,000*	2,105,000*
Raccoons	137,201**	132,218**
Wild Turkeys	24,500*#	20,000*
Ruffed Grouse	470,000*	470,000*
Ringneck Pheasants	1,015,000*	825,000*
Quail	23,000*	14,000*
Woodcocks	75,000*	75,000*
Rails, Gallinules & Coots	12,078**	7,767**
Wild Waterfowl	81,561**	70,037**
Woodchucks	344,778**	319,073**
Doves	258,661**	155,320**
Total Number	8,141,262	7,704,061

Big Game, based on individual reports filed by hunters.

* Based on calculated minimum harvest.

** Based on Field Officers' estimates.

(1) Includes 3,251 Deer killed during the 1967 Archery Season.

(2) Includes 2,337 Deer killed during the 1966 Archery Season.

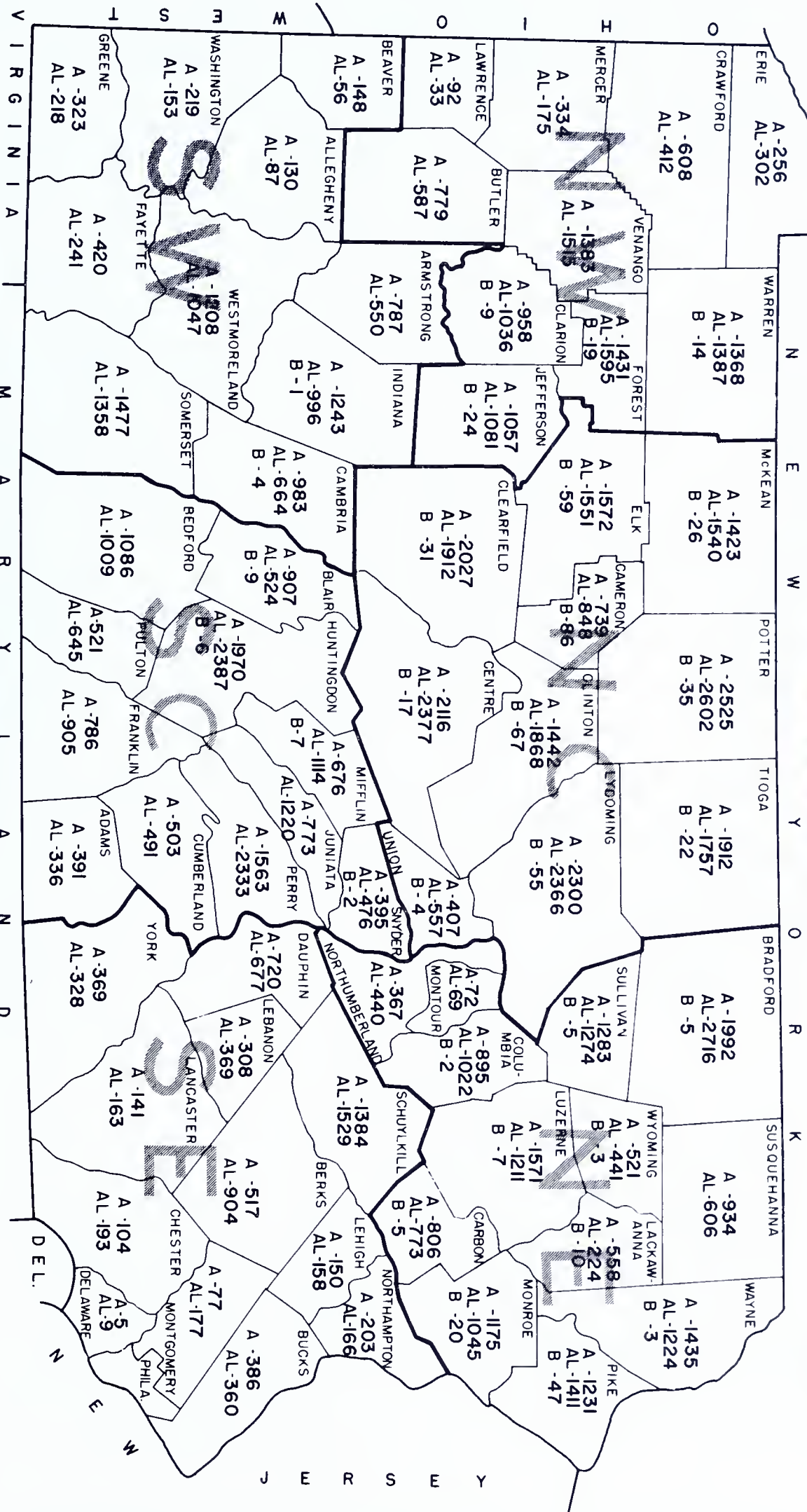
Includes 1,500 killed during Spring Gobbler Season 1968.



1966 DEER & BEAR HARVEST

PENNSYLVANIA GAME COMMISSION

HARRISBURG



ANTLERED DEER (SYMBOL-A)

ANTLERLESS DEER (SYMBOL-AL)

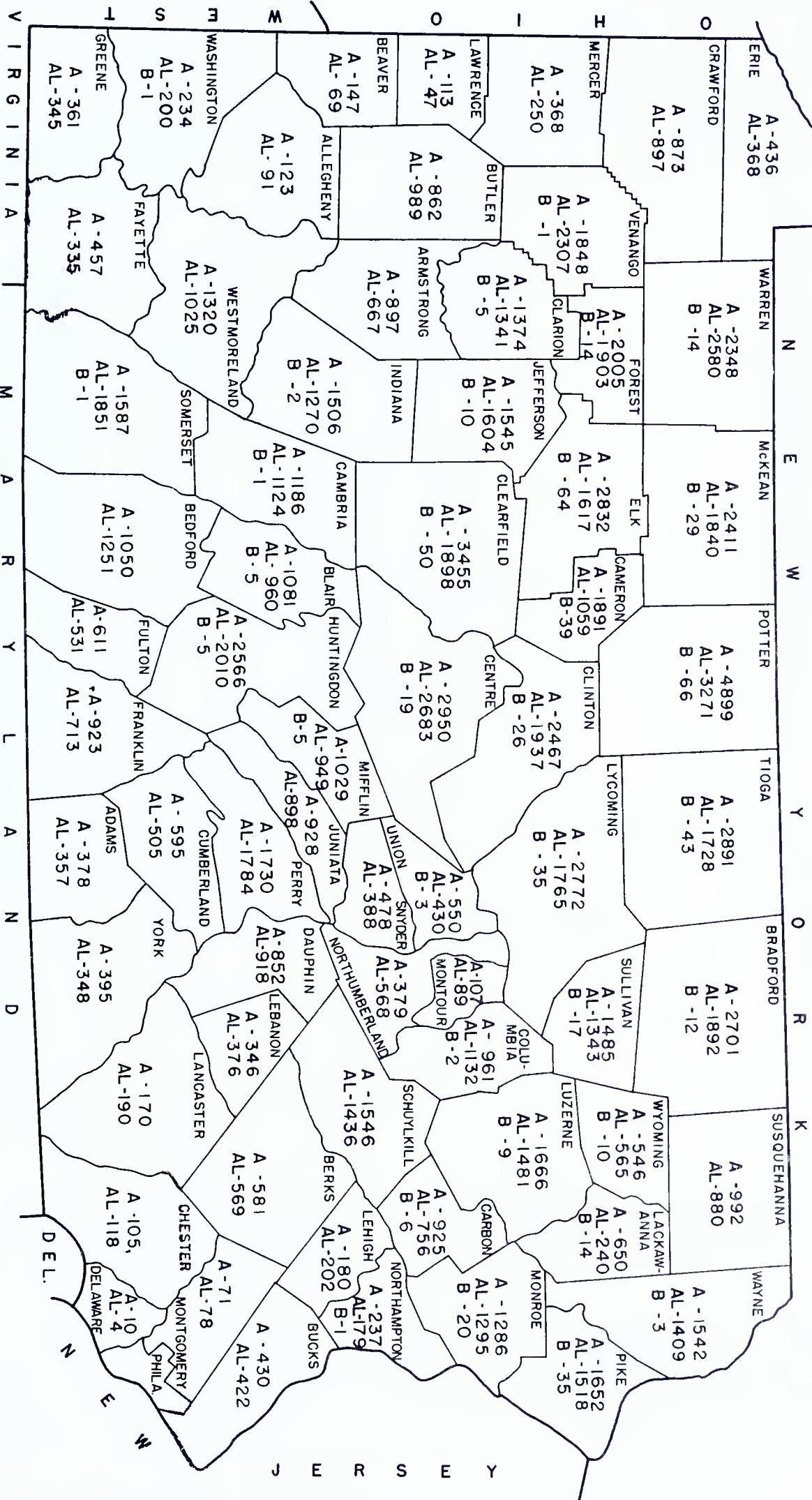
REGULAR SEASON	57,550
COUNTY UNKNOWN	280
ARCHERY SEASON	892
TOTAL	58,722

Grand total BEAR kill.....605
(SYMBOL-B)
Grand total DEER kill.....118,753
— FIELD DIVISION BOUNDARY

DEER & BEAR HARVEST

PENNSYLVANIA GAME COMMISSION

HARRISBURG



ANTLERED DEER

(SYMBOL - A)

ANTLERLESS DEER

(SYMBOL-AL)

REGULAR SEASON.....	76,697
COUNTY UNKNOWN.....	371
ARCHERY SEASON.....	1,200
TOTAL.....	78,268

.....63,800
.....296
.....2,051
.....66,147

Grand total BEAR kill.....568
(SYMBOL-B)
Grand total DEER kill.....144,415

(SYMBOL-B)

Training Section

In addition to the comprehensive training program initiated in 1932 for new employees, the School facilities and personnel were utilized to provide training to the following conservation groups:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Subject or Course</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Number Attending</u>
July 17-20, 1966	Hunter Safety Instructors	12 hrs.	29
July 25-27, 1966	Land Management Workshop	16 hrs.	29
Aug. 8-10, 1966	Law Enforcement Workshop	16 hrs.	22
Aug. 14-17, 1966	Hunter Safety Instructors	24 hrs.	26
Aug. 18-19, 1966	Training Advisory Committee	12 hrs.	10
Mar. 21-23, 1967	Propagation Workshop	20 hrs.	10
May 17-19, 1967	I & E. Workshop	20 hrs.	13
May 21-24, 1967	Hunter Safety Instructors	16 hrs.	26
June 11-16, 1967	Deputy Game Protectors	30 hrs.	28
June 18-21, 1967	Hunter Safety Instructors	16 hrs.	26
June 26-28, 1967	Law Enforcement Workshop	16 hrs.	20
July 11-13, 1967	Land Management Workshop	15 hrs.	26
July 13-14, 1967	Training Advisory Committee	8 hrs.	10
July 16-21, 1967	Deputy Game Protectors	30 hrs.	24
July 25-27, 1967	Land Management Conference	15 hrs.	47
Feb. 27-28, 1968	Propagation Workshop	12 hrs.	16
Mar. 25-	Thirteenth Class	478 hrs.	25
Apr. 18-19, 1968	Training Advisory Committee	8 hrs.	10

During this same period the Training School facilities were utilized for meetings and conferences conducted for or by cooperative and related organizations as follows:

Sept. 26, 1966	Brockway Womens Club	6 hrs.	18
Sept. 27, 1966	Brockway Area School Hunter Safety	3 hrs.	11
Jan. 6-8, 1967	B.S.A. Scouters, Deer Management	10 hrs.	25
Jan. 19, 1967	Soil Conservation Service	3 hrs.	32
May 18, 1967	Brockway Area School Teachers Workshop	6 hrs.	120
July 15-16, 1967	Outdoor Writers Symposium	8 hrs.	30
Aug. 23, 1967	PFWC Youth Conservation Day	4 hrs.	142
Aug. 27, 1967	Legislative Committees		10
Sept. 20, 1967	Jefferson County, S. C. D.	4 hrs.	13
Nov. 1-3, 1967	DPI Cons. Education Workshop	20 hrs.	18
Jan. 5-7, 1967	BSA Scouters Deer Management	10 hrs.	21

Numerous groups and individuals visited the School during this biennium and the Superintendent and the Assistant Superintendent attended several meetings and conferences conducted on Division and District levels.

A Training Advisory Committee has been functioning for the past two years which is believed to be an effective addition to our training program. All Divisions of the State and each major classification level are represented which creates better understanding and attitude toward a continuous training program.

DIVISION OF INFORMATION AND EDUCATION

Game News - Paid circulation increased from 127,985 to 139,179. Despite the fact that most of the GAME NEWS readers reside in Pennsylvania, more than 29,000 receive the magazine in each of the fifty States and in 27 foreign countries. In addition to the paid circulation, 35,625 copies are mailed each month to Farm Game and Safety Zone cooperators, Members of the Legislature, other State and Federal agencies, school and public libraries and outdoor writers. No other State magazine of this kind has a greater monthly circulation.

Drumming Log - The DRUMMING LOG serves as a personnel bulletin and may also be classed as the official house organ. This monthly publication is mailed to salaried officers and their deputies and all retired employees. Each month the Log carries interesting new items about the Game Commission family. Official notices from the Executive Office and Division Chiefs also appear at frequent intervals. A new classified section offers items for sale or trade.

News Release Service - Official news releases about Game Commission programs and activities, seasons and bag limits and other current information of vital interest to sportsmen and the general public, are mailed at least once each week. Special reports, which would include a general statement on the opening of bear season and all other opening dates, is prepared in the evening and forwarded to the wire service. Directed to the news media, Game Commission news releases are mailed to 273 newspapers, 141 radio and TV stations and 78 outdoor writers. Releases are also mailed to Capitol reporters and Commission personnel. There are 269 news releases mailed to various news media in other States.

Paid Publications - Many requests are received for handy reference books that may be purchased at a moderate cost. These include "Pennsylvania Birdlife," "Birds of the Pymatuning", "Mammals of Pennsylvania", "Pennsylvania Trapping", "Pennsylvania Waterfowl Identification Guide", a chart of Pennsylvania Symbols (deer, grouse, hemlock and laurel); and a set of eight (8) charts of Pennsylvania birds and mammals. There is a substantial income from paid publications and Game News subscriptions. This is the first year that income exceeded a quarter million dollars. Total income for the biennium was \$438,115.

Free Literature - Approximately 37,500 requests for information from the Game Commission were processed by forwarding free leaflets, booklets and printed forms. To accommodate the general public and especially school children, our printing orders for free materials have been doubled. Several of the better Game News articles are reprinted and made available without cost.

Lecture Programs and Visual Presentations - There are numerous requests for a Game Commission speaker. Field and office personnel presented more than 25,000 programs before 1,500,000 people within the biennium. Educational films and slide lectures are very popular and during the period there were 12,500 separate showings. Many of our films and slides are requested by TV stations. Since the advent of closed circuit TV, many schools request films for classroom instruction. The Commission has completed an agreement with WITF Educational TV at Hershey to produce a monthly outdoor show of one hour. It is eventually planned to give the program Statewide coverage through seven (7) educational television stations.

Cooperative Education Programs - Financial support was again offered by the Commission to the Carnegie Museum, Pittsburgh; The Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia; the Conservation Education Laboratory for Teachers, Pennsylvania State University; Pennsylvania Rural Safety Council, Future Farmers of America. The Wildlife Conservation Award Program was continued for Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Future Farmers of America, 4-H Clubs, Junior Conservation Clubs and other major youth groups. Parchment certificates and embroidered patches are presented to members of such groups who successfully meet the conservation requirements necessary to earn the recognition.

The Commission furnished instructors and materials to the Junior Conservation Camp at Stone Valley, sponsored by the Pennsylvania Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs during the summer months of the past two seasons. Instructors supplied by the Game Commission have also served at the Butler and Venango County Junior Conservation Camps.

Facilities and personnel were made available at the Ross Leffler School of Conservation to conduct the first Youth Conservation Awards Day by the Pennsylvania Federation of Women's Clubs. Many cooperative programs and conferences were conducted through workshops and projects to present the Commission's wildlife management program.

Audio-Visual Aids - Production was started on a major 16mm sound and color film involving the Pymatuning Waterfowl Area. Premiere showings were presented to a gathering of State agency personnel and during the spring banquet of the Pennsylvania Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs. There were 108 prints of 21 wildlife and hunter safety films purchased for the seven (7) film libraries throughout the State. Several TV spot news announcements were prepared and released to television stations. A large number of color transparencies were produced for displays and slide lectures. The greatest demand calls for black and white photos for Game News, other publications, press and television and other State agencies. Several types of audio-visual aid equipment were purchased and supplied to the six field Division Offices and the Ross Leffler School of Conservation to add greater facilities to the Commission's conservation-information-education program.

Exhibits - More than 60 exhibits and displays, involving the management of Pennsylvania's wildlife resources were produced and presented to more than seven million people in four States. Exhibits were presented at farm shows, outdoor recreation and sport shows, county fairs, sportsmen's field days, youth camps, civic affairs and numerous other public gatherings. The Commission maintains an interesting display at Hershey stressing the value of suitable wildlife habitat. An outstanding collection of waterfowl and shore birds may be seen at the Pymatuning museum. One new major exhibit is prepared each year, plus several portable units.

Deer Records Program - More than 1,400 deer racks were again measured and recorded during the spring of 1967. The entire program is designed along the same principles as adopted by the Boone and Crockett Club. First place winners in the typical, non-typical and archery category, received beautifully engraved bronze medallions. The program was climaxed by an awards night in conjunction with the annual spring banquet of the Pennsylvania Outdoor Writers.

Hunter Safety Training - The Hunter Safety Training Program has been presented by the Pennsylvania Game Commission since 1958. For the first ten years the program has been on a voluntary basis. From July 1, 1966 to June 30, 1968, there were 1,736 instructors and 61,304 students certified. Many organizations supply excellent instructors. These same groups offer their club house facilities for instruction periods. In many instances the students are allowed to use the club shooting facilities. This is often the first time that students are exposed to live ammunition.

Triple Trophy Award - The Commission presented a new program to the sportsmen in 1966 known as the Triple Trophy Contest. The award is offered to those who are fortunate in taking a turkey, bear and antlered deer during the same hunting license year. There were 67 hunters who qualified for the award in 1966. The number of winners in 1967 increased to 102, which may have been due to 33 hunters bagging a turkey during the spring gobbler hunt.

DIVISION OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Food and Cover Section

The major accomplishments for this section on State Game Lands, Allegheny National Forest, Department of Forests and Waters land, and some private lands for this biennium are as follows:

Annual maintenance on all Game Lands and leased lands amounted to 4,750 miles of boundary line, 1,426 miles of forest roads, 700 miles of fire trails, refuges and special areas totaling approximately 92,000 acres, 300 buildings and all road gates, signs, trucks, farming equipment, approximately 539 turkey feeders and 33 marsh areas totaling 397 acres.

Thirty-nine bridges, 31.4 miles of new roads, 46.8 miles of new fire trails, 12 pothole ponds, 45 turkey feeders and 251 parking areas were constructed. Also, 5 waterfowl ditches totaling 1,075 linear feet, averaging 22 feet wide, 13,710 linear feet of diversion terraces, 1,082 acres of contour strips were constructed and established.

Management of Food Strips and Open Field Areas

During this biennium the Food and Cover Corps cleared 135 strips, totaling 278.8 acres of reverting fields and forested areas, 3,054 strips totaling 6,026.8 acres were planted to grasses, grains and legumes. An additional 709 strips totaling 1,185.2 acres were seeded to cover crops to improve wildlife habitat, 17,167 bushels of surplus grain were harvested from Game Lands and fed to wildlife at other locations, 2,122.9 acres of grain were left unharvested on Game Lands food strips for use by wildlife.

Old field areas and food strips in the amount of 20,359.5 acres mowed, 3,599.7 acres limed, 5,109.2 acres fertilized and stones and roots picked from 2,258.9 acres.

Share-croppers planted 6,447.8 acres on Game Lands to grains and 2,985.5 acres to grasses and legumes. The Commission received from these share-croppers as its share 58,702 bushels of harvested grain and 22,335.5 bushels of grain left unharvested on the food strips for use by wildlife. Soil conservation practices and techniques are used on all share-cropped areas. Many of these areas have been used locally as demonstration areas.

Timber Sales and Forest Cuttings

The sale of forest products improved food and cover conditions on more than 7,500 acres of State Game Lands. The sales provided a cash return of \$403,725.06. Products removed were 8,566,254 board feet of sawlogs, 32,555 cords of pulpwood, 2,609 tons of mine materials and 164,485 posts and props were marketed.

In addition to the areas of State Game Lands improved for wildlife by selling timber, more than 8,252.9 acres were developed for wildlife by various types of cutting. Treatment included thinning timber stands, clear cutting and pushing over forest growth with bulldozers. An additional 337,506 food or cover-producing trees, shrubs or vines were pruned or released. Woodland border cuttings along food strips, trails and forest edges benefit wildlife considerably. This type of cutting varies in width, however, an average of fifty feet would be applicable. During this biennium a total of 1,837.3 acres of woodland border were cut, and 942.9 acres recut.

Seedlings and Transplants

Evergreens totaling 590,840 and 1,669,795 food and cover producing shrubs were planted on State Game Lands by Commission personnel.

Howard Nursery

The Nursery released to the six Field Divisions a total of 9,360,730 tree and shrub seedlings during the biennium.

Winter Feeding

A total of 45 turkey feeders were newly constructed or deer proofed. 71,966 bushels of ear corn (35 lbs. per bu.) were fed to wildlife by Commission personnel or furnished to sportsmen for feeding wildlife; 1,689 bushels of other grains were also fed to wildlife and 21,660 pounds of salt placed for use by deer.

Farm Game Cooperative Section

The Cooperative Farm Game Program which is still one of the Commission's best farmer-sportsman relation projects, totaled 1,686,777 acres and included 168 projects consisting of 14,454 farms located in 54 counties as of June 30, 1968. This is an increase of 125,628 acres, 1 project and 960 farms since the last biennium.

Seedlings distributed to Farm Game Cooperators for food and cover plantings totaled 3,006,380. The Commission planted 121,250 seedlings on cooperating farms. Commission personnel cut 2,134.9 acres of woodland borders and other thinnings and cuttings, released 40,426 trees and shrubs to improve food and cover for wildlife on cooperating farms during the biennium.

Safety Zone Program

This major program was developed to open privately owned land to public hunting. Each farm in the program contains a minimum of 50 acres and the Game Commission gives each cooperator safety zone signs to post around his buildings and a yearly subscription to the Pennsylvania Game News.

A total of 14,195 tracts, containing 2,692,249 acres, were open to public hunting during the past season. Since the last biennium this is an increase of 1,064 tracts containing 295,727 acres.

Land Titles and Records

As of June 30, 1968, the total area of Game Lands owned by the Commission was 1,051,106.29 acres, divided into 235 units. This was a gain of 15,645.16 acres and 5 units during the biennium, all of which has been surveyed. 12,007.43 acres of the above listed acres were acquired under the Project 70 Act. Purchase amounted to \$2,401,565.36 or an average cost of \$200.01 per acre.

The Commission paid a total of \$9,385,931.31 for the purchase of all of the Game Lands owned at the end of the biennium, or an average of approximately \$8.93 per acre. Purchases completed during this biennium amounted to \$771,105.06, or an average of approximately \$49.29 per acre.

The total area of all game management projects, including those on lands owned by the Commission, as well as those on land owned by others, and including refuges in State Forests and all other public lands, increased from 5,216,611 acres to 5,443,780.

Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration

The Pennsylvania Game Commission received \$1,672,991.25 in Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Funds for use by the Division of Land Management for wildlife habitat improvement work. This entire amount was spent for habitat improvement work on State Game Lands, Cooperative Farm Game Projects, private lands and other State and Federal lands. For this amount of Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration money received, the Game Commission's share of the expenditure was \$557,663.75, making a total of \$2,230,655.00 spent for Federal Aid development projects during the biennium.

Cooperative Wildlife Programs Within Corps of Engineers Reservoir Lands

Wildlife development plans covering 3,000 acres of lands within the Shenango River Reservoir, Mercer County, were submitted to the Corps of Engineers.

Open Space Grant Application

The Game Commission submitted applications for open space grants to the Housing and Home Finance Agency, as required by the Project 70 Law. Federal grants originally were 20% or 30%; however, under the 1965 Law, the cost-sharing was raised to 50% of the land cost.

All previously submitted projects were withdrawn. The Housing and Home Finance Agency assigned a very low priority to all Commission projects. Understandably, Open Space Grants were made primarily in urban zones during the past two years.

Land and Water Conservation Fund Act (BOR Funds)

The Game Commission has submitted four projects during this period for cost sharing with funds available through the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act. These projects have been approved by the State Planning Board and are being processed by the Bureau of Outdoor Recreation, U. S. Department of Interior, Administrator of the Land and Water Conservation Act.

The Shohola Waterfowl Project, Pike County, and Middle Creek Waterfowl Project, Lebanon-Lancaster Counties, were activated. The Federal cost-sharing sum will total \$471,020. on these two Projects. In addition, the sum of \$11,500 was encumbered for the State Wildlife Plan for the Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan.

To date the Commission was allocated \$595,410. in BOR Funds, with \$482,520. encumbered, leaving a balance of \$112,890.

Land and Water Conservation and Reclamation Fund Act Activity (Project 500)

The Game Commission received an allocation of 5.6 million dollars to be encumbered before July 1, 1969. About nine months of this period was lost as we were delayed in notification of our allocation.

Three Projects totaling \$1,010,740. were approved by the State Planning Board and the Governor, to be financed by the Land and Water Conservation and Reclamation Fund Act (Project 500). Seven other Projects were submitted totaling \$9,338,000, in cost. These include road improvements, small game habitat improvements and waterfowl improvements and are under review by the State Planning Board.

Project 70 Status Report

Of the fifteen Counties of the Commonwealth that Project 70 purchases have been made or planned for, acquisition work has been completed in four Counties, and approximately 75% completed in ten Counties. At present the Blue Marsh Project in Berks County is dormant.

DIVISION OF LAW ENFORCEMENT

Following are the amendments to The Game Law by the 1967 and 1968 Sessions of the General Assembly:

- Act No. 27 - Amended Section 311, "to provide for the bond to be given by issuing agents designated to issue hunters' licenses."
- Act No. 28 - Amended subsection (c) of Section 501, "providing for the issuance of antlerless deer licenses for certain members of the armed forces or those who were recently discharged notwithstanding quota limitations."
- Act No. 29 - Amended subsection (g) of Section 906, "providing for camp site leases (Game Lands)."
- Act No. 30 - (67) - Amended subsection (a) of Section 501; the first paragraph of Section 702; and subsection (a) of Section 731, "further providing for the shooting hours for hunting game."
- Act No. 30 - (68) - Amended by adding new Section 301.1, "providing for mandatory course of instruction in the safe handling of firearms and bows and arrows."
- Act No. 31 - Amended subsection (e) of Section 501, "authorizing the issuance of archery licenses by agents designated by the Department of Revenue and increasing the agent's fee."
- Act No. 40 - Amended Section 1303, "further regulating payment for damage done by bears to bees and bee keeping equipment."
- Act No. 83 - Amended subsection (b) of Section 704; and Section 731 by adding after clause (s), a new clause (t), "further regulating the spotlighting of big game and prescribing penalties."
- Act No. 88 - Amended clause (q) of Section 731, "to provide for the restoration of hunting privileges revoked under certain mandatory provisions of the Act (bear)."
- Act No. 91 - Amended Section 1304, "Providing for an increase in the amount which may annually be paid for bear damage (\$7,500.)"
- Act No. 116 - Amended Section 418.1, "to expand the authority of the Commission to issue permits to disabled persons to hunt from automobile."
- Act No. 129 - Amended by adding after Section 104, a new Section 105, "designating the Secretary of the Commonwealth as the agent of non-resident hunters for service of process."

- Act No. 146 - Amended Section 302, "further providing for free hunting licenses for disabled veterans and exempting any resident of the Commonwealth who is in the service with the Armed Forces of the United States under certain circumstances from the payment of a fee to the Commonwealth for a resident hunter's license."
- Act No. 188 - Amended Sections 303; 303.1 and 501, "authorizing hunting licenses for aliens."
- Act No. 335 - Amended Section 807, "further regulating shooting near highways and providing a penalty."
- Act No. 340 - Amended Section 806, "further regulating the possession of loaded firearms in vehicles."

Deputy Game Protectors

The Game Commission continually seeks to improve the standards of the Deputy Game Protector force. Emphasis is placed on public relations at all in-service training sessions. District Game Protectors are required to conduct at least four (4) training conferences each year. During the biennium 1966-67 - 1967-68, a force of 1,465 Deputies was maintained.

Prosecutions and Penalties (Fiscal Year)

<u>Year</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Amount</u>
1966-1967	7,821	\$226,424.85
1967-1968	<u>7,377</u>	<u>233,926.00</u>
Totals	15,198	\$460,350.85

(Increase of 1,234 prosecutions over 1964-1966;
Increase in penalties \$28,717.20)

Revocations from Convictions

<u>Year</u>	<u>Number</u>
1966-1967	977
1967-1968	<u>1,068</u>
Total	2,045

Revocations from Referee's Hearings

<u>Year</u>	<u>Hearing Held</u>	<u>Discharged</u>
1966-1967	59	10
1967-1968	<u>42</u>	<u>13</u>
Totals	101	23

Revocations by Courts

<u>Year</u>	<u>Number</u>
1966-1967	19
1967-1968	<u>12</u>
Total	31

Deer Hides Sold (1967)

<u>Division</u>	<u>No. of Skins</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Northwest	285	\$ 646.24
Southwest	569	1290.21
Northcentral	334	757.34
Southcentral	336	761.88
Northeast	761	1725.56
Southeast	<u>505</u>	<u>1145.09</u>
	2790	\$6326.32

Deer Hides Sold (1968)

<u>Division</u>	<u>No. of Skins</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Northwest	317	\$ 626.08
Southwest	536	1058.60
Northcentral	436	861.10
Southcentral	220	434.50
Northeast	659	1301.53
Southeast	<u>415</u>	<u>819.63</u>
	2583	\$5101.44

<u>Year</u>	<u>Hides Sold</u>	<u>Total Sale Price</u>	<u>Avg. Price Per Hide</u>
1962	2,229	\$4,771.20	\$2.15
1963	2,628	6,311.80	2.40
1964	2,886	7,276.41	2.52
1965	2,700	7,520.60	2.79
1966	3,028	7,956.07	2.6275
1967	2,790	6,326.32	2.26
1968	2,583	5,101.44	1.97

Special Permits Issued

<u>Type Permit</u>	<u>1966-1967</u>		<u>1967-1968</u>	
	<u>Number</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Collecting	62 (20 gratis)	\$ 420.	62 (21 gratis)	\$ 410.
Disabled Person	284	284.	421	421.
Dog Training	238	4760.	233	4660.
Falconry	24	240.	33	330.
Ferret Breeder	1	50.	1	50.
Ferret Owners	2	30.*	2	20.
*One (1) permit states "Possessing 2 Ferrets" - \$20.				
Field Trial	88	440.	81	405.
Fox Hunting	24	1200.	25	1250.
Fur Dealers	156	3900.	120	3000.
Fur Dealers (Non-Resident)	7	700.	6	600.
Fur Dealers Employes	12	120.	9	90.
Fur Farming	1	15.	1	15.
Propagation	338	5070.	335	5025.
Roadside Menagerie	81	1215.	79	1185.
Regulated Shooting Grounds	199	10125.	198	9925.
Release and Retrap Quail	36	360.	39	390.
Retriever Trials	33	330.	31	310.
Special Retriever Dog Training	7	245.	8	280.
Taxidermy	124	3275.	121	3150.
Mount and Possess Protected Specimens	246	416.	270	468.
	(29 gratis)		(45 gratis)	
Totals	1963	\$33,195.	2175	\$32,964.
	(49 gratis)		(66 gratis)	

Deer-Proof Fences

	<u>Rods</u>	<u>Staples</u>	<u>Cost</u>
1964-65	3,800	286 lbs.	\$5,082.60
1965-66	6,240	468 lbs.	9,482.42
1966-67	4,600	335 lbs.	6,808.35
1967-68	4,400	330 lbs.	6,630.83

Taxidermy Examinations

	<u>Applications</u>	<u>Passed</u>	<u>Failed</u>
1966-67	8	5	3
1967-68	17	8	9
Totals	25	13	12

Miscellaneous Raw Furs

1966-67	\$ 711.00
1967-68	400.70

Total monies received from sale of
miscellaneous raw furs..... \$1111.70

Predators Killed by Game Protectors

Campaigns waged on predators by Game Protectors resulted in the destruction of 36,710 birds and animals.

Firearm Training

Periodic training for all field personnel in the use of revolvers is constructively promoted. Training is conducted on precision shooting and practical police shooting as conducted by F.B.I. and other police agencies.

Equipment

Equipment has been ordered to place 200 officers in uniform full time no later than September 1, 1968. Equipment selected is practical for field wear and will improve the performance and effectiveness of the Commission in meeting and rendering service to the general public.

Bear Damage Claims

	<u>Claims</u>	<u>Beehives</u>	<u>Sheep</u>	<u>Hogs</u>	<u>Horses</u>	<u>Calves</u>	<u>Ducks</u>	<u>Total</u>
1966-67	94	186	12	6	-	2	-	\$4,996.29
1967-68	<u>55</u>	<u>113</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>3,286.41</u>
Totals	149	299	12	10	2	3	3	\$8,282.70

DIVISION OF MINERALS

Oil and Gas Leases

Two (2) new Oil and Gas Leases were executed, six (6) leases were conveyed to the Commission with acreages acquired for State Game Lands, and an additional twenty-two (22) leases active at the beginning of the biennium were serviced during the period. Of these leases three (3) were surrendered and three (3) partially surrendered. During the previous biennium six (6) new leases and thirty (30) others previously in existence were supervised.

The Commission received natural gas production royalties and bonus or rental payments from the leased acreage as follows:

Royalties from 1,096,598 cubic feet of natural gas	-	\$69,534.42
Bonus and Land Rentals from Oil and Gas Leases	-	24,351.64
		<u>\$93,886.06</u>

This income was less than the \$165,794.64 received during the previous biennium, due to lack of interest in exploratory drilling, reduction in production from existing wells and surrender or partial surrender of high rental leases.

The Consolidated Gas Supply Corporation (formerly The New York State Natural Gas Corporation), due to existing court proceedings over ownership of the Oil and Gas Rights in a lease covering Tract No. 93, Clearfield County, has withheld royalties totaling \$20,559.08 covering payments due on 397,228.413 cubic feet of natural gas. The Department of Justice is continuing action to prove title and collect these payments.

Coal Stripping Permits

Six (6) coal stripping permits, issued to individuals or companies owning coal underlying State Game Lands yielded an income to the Commission as follows:

Surface damage royalties for strip mining of reserved coal -
192,112.33 Tons Mined - \$23,955.58

This was a slight increase from the total of \$23,927.35 received for 190,922.57 tons mined the previous biennium.

In addition to the above noted royalties received for surface damages to State Game Lands, the Commission received \$2,054.42 in fees from an existing Wheelage Permit. This was an increase from the \$864.35 received the previous biennium.

Mining operations were periodically checked by office and field employees. Backfilling, leveling and planting of strip mined areas were supervised.

Other Leases and Agreements

Removal of sand, gravel and stone, leased during the biennium progressed satisfactorily. Income was received as follows:

130,291 Cubic Yards of material - \$19,468.04

Rental for limestone rights in one tract totaled \$72.00. No stone was quarried during this period.

Cooperative Activities

Personnel assisted the Division of Land Management in preparing rights-of-way agreements for access and use of State Game Lands.

DIVISION OF PROPAGATION

The Commission continued to operate six Game Farms for the production of ringneck pheasants, bobwhite quail, mallard ducks and wild turkeys. The pheasant chick and rabbit trapping programs were conducted in cooperation with sportsmen's organizations and farmers.

Summary of all Game Released (Game Farms, Purchased, Trapped and Transferred)

Ringneck Pheasants	457,069
Cottontail Rabbits	59,393
Mallard Ducks	19,307
Bobwhite Quail	24,331
Wild Turkeys	13,768
Canada Geese	317

DIVISION OF RESEARCH

As in all research, accomplishments in wildlife studies are seldom spectacular or the products of overnight success. Usually they signify the culmination of many years of unspectacular work during which progress is measured by a steady accumulation of information and broadened knowledge.

During the 1966-1968 biennium, the Division of Research provided technical assistance in the management of the Commonwealth's wildlife resources, developed new techniques for habitat development and maintenance, and conducted investigations directed toward solving fundamental problems in game management.

Following is a brief resume of the major research investigations carried out by the Division during the period under review.

White-tailed Deer Study

With approximately 650,000 deer hunters in Pennsylvania, expenditures by this group for transportation, meals, lodging, equipment, etc., have a beneficial impact on the economy of the State. As part of this study it has been found that deer hunters in the Commonwealth spend an estimated twenty-five and one-half million dollars each year in pursuit of their sport. In this light, three game biologists have been working full-time on specific investigations dealing with nutrition and food preferences, diseases and parasites, habitat manipulation and conflicts, and population dynamics.

Population data, as related to the size and the fluctuations in the deer herd, have been used as the basis for allocating antlerless deer licenses. The gratifying results of this management technique are reflected in total reported harvests of 118,753 and 144,415 deer in 1966 and 1967, respectively. Despite a human population that ranks third highest in the nation, Pennsylvania continues to rank among the top three States in the production and harvest of deer.

Cottontail Rabbit Study

Of all the huntable small game species in Pennsylvania, none is more eagerly sought after than the cottontail rabbit. In order to meet this demand, additional insight into population fluctuations, movement, behavior, disease and the effects of hunter harvest in different habitat types is needed. A relatively new technique involving radio-telemetry equipment has been employed to study seasonal movement and behavior.

Additional recreational opportunities in the form of an extended hunting season for cottontails, is a direct outgrowth of this study.

Ring-necked Pheasant Study

Predicated on a detailed analysis of various habitat types throughout the State, the contribution of pheasants produced in the wild and at game farms has been clearly defined. Major modifications in the Game Commission's management and stocking programs have resulted to the benefit of both the resource and the licensed hunter.

Experimentation continues with the Korean ringneck in hopes of finding a species adaptable to non-typical pheasant range.

Wild Turkey Study

Investigations during the biennium centered in large part on range mapping and the determination of population densities and composition. Findings concerning numbers, distribution and age composition lead to Pennsylvania's first spring gobbler season. The estimated harvest of 1,500 surplus adult gobblers during this new season afforded the sportsmen many additional hours of recreation and led to better utilization of birds that were heretofore wasted.

The questions of winter survival and the need for artificial feeding, both of major concern to the public and the subject of an extensive turkey management program by the Game Commission, have been brought under intensive study.

Hunter Harvest Inventory

Randomly distributed questionnaires were used on a broad scale for the first time during the biennium to determine the practicality of the technique under Pennsylvania conditions and to check the results against those formerly obtained through field estimates. This method of sampling hunter success and projecting harvest totals is comparable to those used by industry and business. It provides economically and statistically sound information which is presently more reliable than data gained through other available means.

An Evaluation of Habitat Development for Wildlife

As new varieties of wildlife food and cover producing shrubs were made available to the Research Division by the U. S. Soil Conservation Service, they were field tested under a variety of soil and climatic conditions. Those species showing greatest promise were selected for propagation at the Commission's nursery and eventual use in the land management program.

Miscellaneous Projects

In addition to the major projects discussed previously, many smaller field problems were worked on independently or cooperatively with personnel from the Pennsylvania State University, Philadelphia Zoo, Pennsylvania Department of Forests and Waters and the U. S. Forest Service. These included waterfowl, woodcock and dove banding; nutritional analysis of deer and turkey foods; and routine pathological examinations of birds and mammals. The biological staff also participated heavily in public relations and information work.

